

## APPENDIX 3

### DETERMINATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

THE BLUEBERRY HILL SITE HAS BEEN DETERMINED by the State Historic Preservation Officer to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, the authors recommend that the peninsular portion of the White Marsh site and the surviving portion of the Simon's Savannah Site be declared eligible for listing. Although its extent and integrity have not been determined, the Ford Farm site is viewed as being potentially eligible, pending additional tests to determine extent and integrity.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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### 1. Name of Property

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historic name	Ford Farm Prehistoric Site
other names/site number	K-6451, 7K-C-386, locus D

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### 2. Location

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city, town	City of Dover
	Delaware Kent County

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### 3. Classification

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Ownership of Property	Category of Property
Private: Anita Baynard and Marian Smith	archaeological site

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### 7. Description

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The site consists of a sandy bluff on the west bank of the main branch of St. Jones River, a short distance downstream from the confluence of its two major tributaries. The river valley is now occupied by a silted millpond; originally the river flowed freely through the floodplain. Opposite the site, White Marsh Branch flowed into the St. Jones from the east; it has since been converted into a drainage ditch.

The test location was the highest point on the bluff, at elevation 40 feet. The present elevation of the riverside wetlands is 16.5 feet. Since the test was intended only for Phase I identification purposes, it consisted of a single shovelled unit three feet square and one foot deep, less than 20 feet from the brink of the bluff. No evidence of agricultural disturbance was present. Additional testing would be required to determine boundaries, although certain physical limits are evident.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria     D

Areas of Significance	Period of Significance
Prehistoric Archaeology	Archaic

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State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

This site appears to contain remains of intensive settlement during the Archaic period, perhaps a base camp. According to the state management plan for prehistoric resources, unplowed sites are assigned the highest priority. The second priority includes any late Paleo or Archaic site that has been plowed but not otherwise disturbed. The Ford Farm Prehistoric Site, therefore, ranks at the top of the state's preservation priorities.

Prehistoric archaeological sites in the headwaters area of the St. Jones River are rare. In view of the region's intense development, undisturbed sites are particularly rare. The state's management plan for prehistoric resources identifies this area as sensitivity zone I: "High/Medium significant site potential with development pressure," in which archaeological projects "should receive priority funding considerations."

### *Archaeological investigations*

The site was tested at the Phase I level in connection with a proposed realignment of Denney Road under a Delaware Department of Transportation contract. A single test hole, three feet square and a foot deep, was sunk into the site on November 21, 1989 by Edward Heite. The test was located about twenty feet from the edge of the bluff, on the highest point along the ridge. The absence of discernible plow soil indicated that the site had never been cultivated, at least with modern equipment.

Prehistoric lithic material was found the entire depth of the test, which was stopped arbitrarily when it became obvious that the site is deep and probably is stratified. The collection from this test was sufficient for Phase I purposes, and no further digging could be justified at the time. From nine cubic feet of soil, a total of thirty-eight artifacts were recovered, indicating an intense occupation.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Ames, David L., Mary Helen Callahan, Bernard L. Herman, and Rebecca J. Siders  
1989     *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan.*

Custer, Jay  
1986     A management plan for Delaware's Prehistoric Cultural Resources. *University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research Monograph No. 2.*

Herman, Bernard L., and Rebecca J. Siders  
1986     *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan: Historic Contexts.*

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**10. Geographical Data**

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Acreage of property: Approximately one (by estimation of demonstrated boundaries)

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Verbal boundary Description

The site is woodland, bounded on the north by a bluff defining the floodplain of St. Jones River, on the south by a plowed field, on the west by a ravine, and on the east by lower ground. Dimensions are approximately 250 by 200 feet.

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Boundary Justification

The site is naturally limited on the north by the crest of the bluff, nominally the west bank of the floodplain. Since no artifacts were found in the plowed field 200 feet to the south, the landward extent of the site is less than 200 feet. To the west, a steep hill defines the site about 50 feet from the test location. Eastward, the site drops off more gradually, reaching the floodplain about 150 feet from the test location.

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**Form Prepared By**

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August 1990  
302-697-1789

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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### 1. Name of Property

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historic name	Simon's Savannah
other names/site number	K-6452, 7K-C-386

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### 2. Location

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city, town	City of Dover Delaware Kent County
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### 3. Classification

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Ownership of Property	Category of Property
public State of Delaware Delaware Technical and Community College	archæological site
private Larry McKinley, Larry's Homes	

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### 7. Description

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Simon's Savannah is a bay/basin feature, a perennially wet lowground without natural drainage that is commonly found in Delaware. Previous site surveys have identified such features as having a high potential for containing procurement sites from the Archaic and later prehistoric periods. Such sites commonly are found on the high sand ridges that often accompany bay/basin features.

The Simon's Savannah prehistoric site is such a sand ridge, located southwest of the water-filled basin, and five or six feet above the water level. While the ridge has been cultivated for most of three centuries, it retains its shape and a significant fraction remains undisturbed.

Testing indicated that the highest concentration of artifacts is found at the existing summit of the sand ridge. Since the summit remains undisturbed, the significant part of the site has survived intensive development.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria    D

Areas of Significance	Period of Significance
Prehistoric archaeology	Archaic

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State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The site lies immediately adjacent to a college parking lot, in an area identified in the state management plan for archaeological resources as having a high priority. The site has been cultivated since the eighteenth century, but retains stratification. According to the state management plan for prehistoric archaeology, plowed Paleo and Archaic sites are assigned the second level of priority, immediately after undisturbed sites.

### *Background history*

The site was first settled by Europeans early in the eighteenth century, when a farmstead was established nearby by the Stout family. Most recently, the site has been an orchard. The surface is now grassed, with a few cedar trees. A gas line has recently been laid across the site, which is bisected by the state's property line.

### *Archaeological investigations*

Test excavation of a single unit in 1989 confirmed the existence of the site; its extent and depth were examined during a test excavation of five more units in August 1990.

In the initial Phase I test, November 15, 1989, Edward Heite opened a pit three feet square, only ten inches deep to the bottom of the plowzone. This shallow test revealed considerable chipped stone material, prompting a recommendation of further testing.

The additional testing was conducted on August 4, 1990, when five more units of the same size were opened in ten-centimeter levels. Two of the holes were opened to a depth of 60 centimeters, while the others were only 40 centimeters deep.

These tests were located at three points, ten meters apart. At the point nearest the summit of the ridge, the artifact density was greatest, while the point farthest from the summit contained the fewest artifacts. This indicates that the site was originally centered on the high ridge, and that the topography of the surviving site area has changed little since prehistory.

While no diagnostic artifacts were discovered, the site can be confidently ascribed to the Archaic period on the basis of analogies elsewhere. The site is stratified, as demonstrated by a statistical analysis of the lithic materials recovered.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Ames, David L., Mary Helen Callahan, Bernard L. Herman, and Rebecca J. Siders  
1989 *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan.*

Custer, Jay  
1986 A management plan for Delaware's Prehistoric Cultural Resources. *University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research Monograph No. 2.*

Herman, Bernard L., and Rebecca J. Siders  
1986 *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan: Historic Contexts.*

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of property: less than one (by superficial measurement, about 200 by 150 feet)

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### Verbal boundary Description

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The site is bounded on the southwest by a newly-built parking lot of Delaware Technical and Community College, on the southeast by a dirt road, on the northeast by a deep drainage ditch, and on the northwest by the wet lowground known historically as Simon's Savannah

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### Boundary Justification

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The ditch and the parking lot on the east and west have destroyed whatever might have existed east or west of them. The dirt road follows the relatively level land below the ridge to the southeast. On the north, the wetlands certainly define the practical limits of the site. The six test units demonstrated that the site is centered on the crest of the ridge, above elevation 44.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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### 1. Name of Property

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historic name                                      Dover Quadrangle Site IV.2, UDRF Survey

other names/site number                      K-5470, 7K-C-107, Blueberry Hill

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### 2. Location

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city, town                                      City of Dover  
   Delaware   Kent County

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### 3. Classification

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Ownership of Property	Category of Property
Private: John T. and Janis W. Beiser	Archæological site

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### 7. Description

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

7K-C-107 is an undisturbed stratified procurement site dating to the Paleo-Indian and Archaic periods, overlain by a possible micro-band base camp dating to the Woodland I and Woodland II periods. This occupation has been disturbed by cultivation. The western extent of the site as it existed in prehistoric times cannot be determined. A railroad built in 1856 cut through the ridge on which the site is located, and sand pit operations along the cut further reduced the intact portion of the site. More recently, the sand pit has become a dirt bike track, resulting in additional erosion along the edge of the remaining portion of the site. When subsurface testing was first conducted during the summer of 1990, approximately 100 square meters of the site remained intact. Test excavations during the summer of 1991 included the excavation of 1-meter-square units, most of which were grouped at the northern end of the site. This block includes the greatest concentration of Woodland Period remains. The Paleo-Indian occupation displays a very different distribution pattern, and a substantial part of the remaining settlement from that period is intact. Despite the loss of a portion of the site, significant intact deposits remain.

The site is located on a high sandy bluff overlooking the confluence of Maidstone Branch and Fork Branch, which join to form the St. Jones River. It is currently wooded, but part of the site has in the past been cultivated. On the east, the site drops off sharply to the floodplain. Fifteen hundred meters to the west is an enclosed freshwater feature referred to as a bay/basin feature or Delmarva bay. These features have been shown to be an important resource area for Archaic Period residents of the region, and could have been conveniently exploited from 7K-C-107.

7K-C-107 was first identified by Custer and Galasso (1983) in the course of their survey of the St. Jones and Murderkill drainages. They identified it as a procurement site of unknown cultural affiliation, and cited its location at the confluence of a major and minor tributary.

In connection with a Delaware Department of Transportation project, Edward Heite in August 1990 excavated a test pit three feet square and 70 centimeters deep. The test unit was located at the edge of a dirt bike track, about six meters from the edge of the bluff. The first 30 centimeters proved to be plowzone, with mixed prehistoric and historic artifacts.

Each 10-centimeter level contained artifacts; the last level contained only a small quartzite chip and a fire-reddened pebble, and work was discontinued. Analysis of the recovered material revealed that there are differences between the contents of the various levels, inferring stratification in spite of a lack of diagnostic artifacts.

Archæologists for Heite Consulting in 1991 excavated an additional 10 meter-square units. The research design called for excavation to a white sand C horizon identified at 70 centimeters in the first test pit. Marcey Creek ceramics, dated to 1000 BC to 1200 BC, were found at the base of the plowzone, and a Palmer projectile point, dated to approximately 7500 BC, was found at 65 centimeters, just above the white sand C horizon. These temporally diagnostic artifacts indicated the presence of undisturbed Archaic and late Paleo-Indian components at the site.

An examination of the soil profile across the site by John Foss of Soils International, Inc. identified a soil horizon at the base of the white sand deposit which was probably indicative of a Late Glacial (15,000 BC to 8,000 BC) landscape. This meant that an undisturbed and stratigraphically distinct Early Paleo-Indian component might also be present at the site below the level already tested. Foss identified the white sand horizon as an æolian deposit which accumulated above this Late Glacial landscape over a comparatively short period of time. As a result of Foss's findings, the white sand was excavated in the units already opened. Flakes were found in this deposit, confirming the presence of the Early Paleo-Indian component.

Although there are some differences in the degree of soil development across the site, the soil horizons identified by Foss can be grouped into 5 zones:

Zone I is the uppermost organic layer, and varies from 25 centimeters thick along the western edge of the site where cultivation has occurred, to 50 centimeters thick along the eastern edge, where accumulation over the last 150 years has taken place. The Woodland Period occupation is almost entirely within this zone.

Zone II is a weak B horizon which has developed in an aeolian soil. This zone extends from the base of the plow zone to approximately 70 centimeters below the present surface. Marcey Creek ceramics have been found at the interface between Zones I and II. A Palmer projectile point was found at the base of Zone II, indicating that Zone II accumulated over a 6500-year period between 9500 years ago and 3000 to 3200 years ago.

Zone III is a light-colored sand deposit which has not undergone soil development. This indicates that this 30 to 35 centimeters thick deposit accumulated over a very short period of time ending about 9500 years ago. No temporally diagnostic artifacts have been found in this deposit, although flakes have been recovered in most units excavated to this level.

Zone IV is a discontinuous loamy sand B horizon that is up to 15 centimeters in thickness. This zone appears to indicate a stable Late Glacial surface.

Finally, Zone V is a well developed sandy loam B horizon which represents the Pleistocene surface.

When the present survey began, more than 100 m<sup>2</sup> of site 7K-C-107 remained. Phase II testing has involved not more than 10% of the site. Thus, a substantial part of the undisturbed site area remains.



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## 8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria    D

Areas of Significance  
Prehistoric archaeology

Period of Significance  
Paleo-Indian, Archaic, Woodland I

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State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Although seriously disrupted by a railroad cut, sand pit operations, and dirt bike riding, 7K-C-107 retains substantial vertical and horizontal integrity.

This vertical integrity is notable because the intact deposits date to the two earliest and least understood periods of Delaware prehistory, the Paleo-Indian and Archaic periods. Although temporal indicators are sparse in the assemblage recovered to date, temporally diagnostic artifacts have been found at critical points in the vertical profile. This has made it possible to provide *post quem* and *ante quem* dates for Zone II (7500 BC to 1200 BC) and an *ante quem* date for Zone III (7500 BC). Furthermore, because of the vertical separation, it is possible to treat each zone as a separate site.

The state management plan for prehistoric archaeological sites identifies the recording and description of sites dating to the Paleo-Indian and Archaic Periods as the primary research goal for these periods. Thus, at 7K-C-107, it will be possible to address the primary research questions for both of these poorly understood time periods in a single environmental setting.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Ames, David L., Mary Helen Callahan, Bernard L. Herman, and Rebecca J. Siders  
1989                    *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan.*

Custer, Jay  
1986                    A management plan for Delaware's Prehistoric Cultural Resources. *University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research Monograph No. 2.*

Custer, Jay, and George J. Galasso  
1983                    A Prehistoric Archaeological Survey of the St. Jones and Murderkill Drainages, Kent County, Delaware. *Bulletin of the Archaeological Society of Delaware, New Series, 14.*

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of property: less than one acre

Verbal boundary Description

The site is bounded on the east by a steep bluff and on the west by a sand pit. On the north, the site tapers off to a point near the confluence of the two streams. On the south, the site is defined by a natural ravine that cuts the bluff.

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## Boundary Justification

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The site is bounded on the northeast and east by the edge of a bluff, which overlooks the confluence of Fork Branch and Maidstone Branch. The western boundary is defined by the sand pit, which destroyed any of the site beyond the wooded fringe.

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## Form Prepared By

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1991  
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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### 1. Name of Property

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historic name                                      White Marsh Branch Site (western portion)

other names/site number                      K-6455, 7K-C-390,

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### 2. Location

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city, town                                      City of Dover  
   Delaware   Kent County

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### 3. Classification

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Ownership of Property	Category of Property
Public: Delaware Technical and Community College	Archæological site

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### 7. Description

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The site is a low sandy bluff overlooking the confluence of Maidstone Branch and Fork Branch, which join to form the St. Jones River. It is currently wooded, and has never been cultivated. The subject portion of the site is a knoll or island protruding into the boggy floodplain.

On the east, an isthmus connects the knoll to the adjacent broad cultivated field. This isthmus has been mined for sand, but the diggings do not appear to intrude on the knoll.

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### 8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria	D
Areas of Significance	Period of Significance
Prehistoric archæology	Archaic, Woodland

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State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Remaining portions of the site retain a degree of integrity, in spite of truncation by the gravel pit. A test unit indicated that the site is probably stratified and has a high potential for contributing to our knowledge of prehistory.

The state management plan for prehistoric archæological sites indicates that any previously uncultivated site is assigned the highest level of priority. The remaining portion of the site is deep and may be stratified, as demonstrated by test excavations. A single 3' by 3' test pit into this portion of the site (ER 49) yielded Killens pottery, jasper flakes, and fire-cracked rocks, to a depth of 40 centimeters.

Shovel test pits into the disturbed isthmus area indicate that some salvageable data may survive around the edge of the borrow pit.

In connection with a Delaware Department of Transportation project, Edward Heite excavated at test hole three feet square and 40 centimeters deep. No previous excavations are recorded.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Ames, David L., Mary Helen Callahan, Bernard L. Herman, and Rebecca J. Siders  
1989 *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan.*

Custer, Jay  
1986 A management plan for Delaware's Prehistoric Cultural Resources. *University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research Monograph No. 2.*

Custer, Jay, and George J. Galasso  
1983 A Prehistoric Archaeological Survey of the St. Jones and Murderkill Drainages, Kent County, Delaware. *Bulletin of the Archaeological Society of Delaware, New Series, 14.*

Herman, Bernard L., and Rebecca J. Siders  
1986 *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan: Historic Contexts.*

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of property: less than one acre

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### Verbal boundary Description

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The site is bounded on three sides by natural wetlands and on the east by an isthmus connecting it to the broad agricultural features beyond

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### Boundary Justification

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Except for the eastern boundary, on all sides the sites limits are as defined by the environment. On the east, the site's limit is defined by a large disturbance.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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### 1. Name of Property

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historic name                                      Nathan Williams House Site

other names/site number                      K-6454, 7K-C-389

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### 2. Location

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city, town    City of Dover  
    Delaware   Kent County

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### 3. Classification

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Ownership of Property                              Category of Property

Private:  
Anita Baynard and Marian Smith              archæological site

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### 7. Description

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The site is now a cultivated field bounded on the west by McKee Road and on the east by a wooded wetland. On the north it is bounded by another wooded wetland and on the south by the owner's residence. This is most of the property that was occupied by Nathan Williams.

In 1838, this was described as the property late in the tenure of Williams, who was described as a Free Negro. The subject property is an approximation of the boundaries of the Williams tract, which was not precisely surveyed.

From the descriptions in nineteenth-century documents, the Williams house was a modest affair, possibly one of the log houses identified in earlier documents. Whatever the material, such houses can be expected to leave little structural remains. A nineteenth-century trash deposit was identified on the approximate site of the documented Williams toft, indicating that some archæological deposits probably survive below plow depth.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria     D

Areas of Significance	Period of Significance
Commerce	1838-1881

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State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Sites associated with antebellum free black non-landowners are extremely difficult to identify, since there was no legal compulsion to make a record of their tenure. Free black landowners have received considerable attention in the historical literature because they are readily identified in the tax rolls and deeds.

The state management plan for historical archaeological sites does not single out the antebellum black population for study, but identifies the dislocations caused by Civil War as an appropriate area for study. Since the Nathan Williams property spans the Civil War period, excavation could shed light on the social transformations that occurred.

The Nathan Williams property was first identified in the records by the will of John Pleasanton in 1838. At that time, the property consisted of approximately eleven acres with a house. It cannot be determined if this was one of the houses identified in earlier documents. Williams was a free Negro with some rights to the property that were less than freehold, perhaps a life estate.

When the present McKee Road was laid out in 1881, a house still stood on the site. It is possible from the documents to identify the Williams holding. In the plowed field a concentration of domestic artifacts mark the approximate site located on the surveys. The deposit was found on a slight natural rise adjacent to McKee Road.

When the road was widened a few years ago, a strip 35 feet wide was taken from the field, possibly truncating the front of the site.

### *Archaeological investigations*

Surface survey (Island Field accession 90/23/3) recovered white earthenware, Mason jar lid liners, and other material typical of the later nineteenth century or early twentieth century. Mixed with these materials were earlier items, such as blue shell-edged white earthenware and lead-glazed red earthenware.

These remains suggest that the site was created over a long period, which is consistent with the documentary evidence for at least a fifty-year occupation.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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### Secondary Sources:

Ames, David L., Mary Helen Callahan, Bernard L. Herman, and Rebecca J. Siders  
1989           *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan.*

Heite, Edward F. and Louise B. Heite  
1985           *Fork Branch / duPont Station Community: Archaeological Investigations on Denney's Road, County Road 100, Dover, Kent County, Delaware.* Delaware Department of Transportation Archaeology Series 37. Dover.

Heite, Louise B.  
1987           Tenancy, Class, and Infrastructure in pre-Civil War Wilmington. Paper presented at the seventeenth annual Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Herman, Bernard L., and Rebecca J. Siders  
1986           *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan: Historic Contexts.*

### Primary Sources:

Will of John Pleasanton, July 14, 1838, probated September 10, 1838, Kent County Will Book R-1, pages 112, 118.

Kent County General Quarter Sessions Road Book, May 12, 1881, pages 244-248.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of property: (by deed record)

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### Verbal boundary Description

The site is bounded on the west by McKee Road, on the east by a wooded wetland, on the north by another wooded wetland, and on the south by the yard surrounding the modern residence of Mrs. Anita Baynard, one of the owners.

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### Boundary Justification

This is as nearly as possible the reconstructed boundary of Williams' holding, which was never surveyed separately. On the west and south, the site is reduced by modern construction of the road and the owner's house.

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